

**Daventry**  
**Rural District Council**

---

THE  
**Annual Report**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER**  
**OF HEALTH**  
FOR THE YEAR  
**1937.**

---

BY  
**Alfred R. Darley, M.D.,**  
Medical Officer of Health.

DAVENTRY -  
DANETRE PRESS, Printers and Publishers. 33, Sheaf Street



GLENARIFF HOUSE,

WEST HADDON,

RUGBY.

*May 11th, 1938.*

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF DAVENTRY.

---

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present for your consideration my Annual Report, dealing with the Sanitary conditions, and the Health of the Daventry Rural District for the year ending December 31st, 1937.

**Area.**

The Area of the whole Rural District is 79,423 acres.

**Population.**

The Population of the District, according to the Census of 1931, was 16,016. This shows a decrease of 577 persons on the former Census taken in the year 1921.

The Registrar General estimates that the population of the District in 1937 was 15,090, so I am assuming that these figures are correct for the working out of the statistics of this Annual Report.

**Inhabited Houses.**

The number of Inhabited Houses, whether occupied or not, by the Census of 1931 was 4,681.

The number of Inhabited Houses for the Rural District at the end of the year 1937, according to the Rate Books was 4,610.

**Number of Families or Separate Occupiers.**

The number of families or separate occupiers according to the Census of 1931, was 4,501.

**Rateable Value.**

The Rateable Value of the District on December 31st, 1937, was £74,581.

## Sum Represented by a Penny Rate.

The sum represented by a Penny Rate is estimated to produce the sum of £300 for the financial year 1937—38.

## Birth Rate.

The number of living Births registered in the District was 203; Males 112, Females 91; of these three males and three females were illegitimate.

These figures give a Birth Rate for the whole District of 13·45 per 1,000 living, which is 1·45 per 1,000 below the provisional figures for England and Wales for the year 1937.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years :

1933	Males	73	Females	78	Birth Rate	11·23
1934	„	86	„	79	„	12·50
1935	„	96	„	101	„	12·80
1936	„	97	„	89	„	12·26
1937	„	112	„	91	„	13·45

In addition to the living births there were two still-births registered, both females and legitimate.

## Death Rate.

The number of Deaths registered at all ages for the District was 201, Males 101, Females 100; this gives a Death Rate for the District of 13·32 per 1,000, which is 0·92 per 1,000 above the provisional figures for England and Wales for the year 1937.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years :

1933	Males	90	Females	101	Death Rate	14·21
1934	„	96	„	93	„	14·31
1935	„	123	„	102	„	14·62
1936	„	104	„	120	„	14·76
1937	„	101	„	100	„	13·32

## Infant Mortality.

There were nine deaths of Infants under one year, five males and four females, two male infants were illegitimate. This gives an Infant Mortality of 44·77 per 1,000 births, which is a great improvement on the preceding year.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years :

1933	...	72·84	per 1,000 births.
1934	...	72·72	„ „
1935	...	45·68	„ „
1936	...	69·89	„ „
1937	...	44·77	„ „

## Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases.

The Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 0·26 per 1,000 ; and from Respiratory Diseases it was 1·12 per 1,000.

The following are the particulars for each of the last five years per 1,000 :

1933	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0·37	Respiratory Diseases	0·96
1934	"	0·45	"	1·21
1935	"	0·45	"	1·49
1936	"	0·19	"	0·52
1937	"	0·26	"	1·12

## Mortality.

The following table shows the different causes of death for each person belonging to the Daventry Rural District for the year 1937, according to the return made to me by the Registrar General :

	Males	Females
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	0
Diphtheria ... ..	1	2
Influenza ... ..	6	5
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	3	1
Other Tuberculosis ... ..	1	1
General Paralysis of Insane	1	0
Cancer ... ..	17	7
Diabetes ... ..	2	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ... ..	5	2
Heart Disease ... ..	25	22
Other Circulatory Diseases	9	9
Bronchitis ... ..	3	5
Pneumonia ... ..	4	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ...	1	0
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	1	0
Other Liver Diseases ... ..	0	2
Other Digestive Diseases ...	2	2
Nephritis ... ..	4	11
Congenital Causes ... ..	3	3
Senility ... ..	3	7
Suicide ... ..	4	2
Other Violence ... ..	2	2
Other Defined Causes ... ..	2	11
Total	101	100

In the foregoing table the death from Scarlet Fever was that of a child who contracted the disease in December, 1936, and died in Staverton Isolation Hospital in January, 1937, so that the notification appears in the Report for one year, and the death in that of the next.

The figures and details on which these statistics are framed, were received by me from the Registrar General, per the County M.O.H. on May 7th, so I have every hope that the Printers will have the report ready by the end of this month.

In the early part of the summer I received a letter from the Chairman of the Central Propaganda Committee of the British Empire Cancer Campaign, suggesting lectures on the subject of Cancer in the Daventry Rural District during the approaching winter, needless to say I was pleased to assist in any way, a small panel of Medical Men was formed who were willing to give these lectures, and arrangements were made through the help of the different Women's Institutes in the District, three lectures were given before Christmas, and seven after, so that most of the larger Parishes have already been visited.

One of the most important points brought out at these lectures was to urge the public to seek early medical advice, and not to delay that step, the meetings as a whole were fairly well attended, and a hope has been expressed to me that they will be continued during the coming winter.

## **Nursing.**

The Health Visiting and District Nursing arrangements are under the management of the County Council, and have proved efficient throughout the District, there are several District Nurses residing in the larger Parishes. There are Child Welfare Centres at Byfield and Long Buckby, these are also in the hands of the County Council.

## **Infectious Sickness.**

During the year 1937, I received the notification of 63 cases of Infectious Sickness from Medical Practitioners in the District; this is a further decrease on the year 1936, and is especially to be noted in Scarlet Fever. By giving the particulars of all the cases reported during the last five years, as I do in the following table, a very fair comparison can be arrived at, and the marked improvement in Infectious Disease that has occurred throughout the Rural District is clearly seen.



	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Scarlet Fever ... ..	25	73	138	55	18
Diphtheria ... ..	1	4	17	19	21
Erysipelas ... ..	1	4	3	1	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	9	8	3	9
Other Tuberculosis ...	2	3	6	3	4
Pneumonia ... ..	9	4	3	4	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever ... ..	2	0	4	0	0
Puerperal Fever ... ..	0	0	1	1	0
Chicken Pox ... ..	2	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	0	1	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	51	97	181	87	63

No case of Small Pox, Enteric Fever, nor Ophthalmia Neonatorum occurred in any part of the District during the year.

There were 18 cases of Scarlet Fever spread over eight Parishes, this is the lowest number we have had for many years, no Parish was specially affected, the cases were mild and recovered.

There were 21 cases of Diphtheria notified to me from five Parishes, many of these were serious and two of them died, one from Crick arrived too late at Staverton for any hope of saving life, the other a case from Weedon was sent into Northampton General Hospital, and when diagnosed, moved on to Northampton Isolation Hospital where death occurred in a few weeks time. There was also another death of a child whose home was in this district and died of Diphtheria outside the area, the death has therefore been transferred back to me for our record. The greatest number of cases came from Ashby-St.-Ledgers where the disease appeared in the Nasal form, these children were all moved at once to Staverton, and no further cases occurred; all these children recovered.

The two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were both sent to Hospital and recovered.

In all cases of the more serious forms of Infectious Sickness, the homes are immediately visited, and enquiries made to try, if possible, to establish the source of infection, the drains, etc., are examined, and the water and milk supply enquired into; the houses are thoroughly disinfected and every step taken to prevent any spread of the disease.

The notification of Tuberculosis in the area is efficient, and no action or proceedings were necessary for wilful neglect. There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, this disease in any particular part of the District. Special attention is always paid to Tubercular cases, not only on behalf of the sufferers themselves but also for the sake of the other members of the families.

The following are the particulars as required by the Ministry of Health :

Age Under	New Cases						Deaths				
	Pulmonary		Non. Pulmonary	Pulmonary			Non. Pulmonary	Pulmonary		Non. Pulmonary	
	M.	F.		M.	F.			M.	F.		M.
1	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	1	—
5	—	—	...	1	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
10	—	—	...	—	1	...	—	—	...	—	—
15	—	—	...	1	—	...	—	—	...	—	1
20	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
25	1	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
35	3	—	...	1	—	...	2	1	...	—	—
45	1	2	...	—	—	...	1	—	...	—	—
55	—	2	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
65	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
Totals	5	4		3	1		3	1		1	1

No Infectious Sickness was notified from twenty parishes out of the thirty-five that comprise the Rural District, and from four of the remaining parishes single cases only were notified.

## Schools.

The School Buildings are in satisfactory state, and the lavatory accommodation is sufficient and kept in a clean state ; at no time during the year have I received any complaint regarding the sanitary condition of a school. Infectious Sickness did not affect to any great extent the education of the children in the District, though some non-notifiable diseases reduced the attendance for a time in a few of the schools. Towards the end of October an outbreak of Diphtheria occurred amongst the children in Ashby-St.-Ledgers, and the school was closed for a short time.

The following table shows for each Parish the Infectious Sickness which occurred during the past year, and also for comparison the population in 1921 and in 1931. It will be noticed that ten parishes increased in population, twenty-three decreased, and two had the same number at each Census.



[illegible]

## Isolation Hospital.

The Staverton Isolation Hospital has been in use during the whole of the year, and a large number of patients made use of the Hospital both from the Rural District and the adjoining District.

The number of cases admitted was 105 as compared with 145 in 1936, and 187 in 1935.

The following are the particulars of the Patients who were admitted :

Scarlet Fever from Daventry Rural District	...	13
Scarlet Fever from Brackley Rural District	...	20
Scarlet Fever from Brixworth Rural District	...	18
Scarlet Fever from Towcester Rural District	...	3
Scarlet Fever from Daventry Borough	...	2
Diphtheria from Daventry Rural District	...	20
Diphtheria from Brackley Rural District	...	1
Diphtheria from Brixworth Rural District	...	26
Diphtheria from Towcester Rural District	...	1
Diphtheria from Weedon Barracks	...	1

This gives a total of 33 from the Daventry Rural District, and 72 paying cases from outside the District.

Four deaths occurred during the year from Diphtheria, one each from the Rural Districts of Daventry, Brackley, Brixworth, and Towcester ; most of the Diphtheria cases were seriously ill on arrival, and I would urge that patients with this disease be sent into Hospital as early as possible, so that large doses of Anti-toxin serum can be given at the beginning of the illness.

All the Scarlet Fever Patients admitted to the Hospital during the year recovered, but one death occurred early in January, that of a child who had been admitted in December, 1936.

The Motor Ambulance gave little trouble during the year, it was used to bring in all patients from the Rural District, and a great many cases from the surrounding Districts also made use of its services.

The springs on the south side of the Hospital gave an ample supply of pure water during the year, and when the Hospital is enlarged there are more springs of good water in the same fields which can be tapped should an increased supply be necessary.

The Nursing by the Staff has been most efficient in every way. Early in the year the Matron and her Husband gave notice to leave and your Council appointed Nurse Oudnie Matron from March 1st, she had been on the Staff for some years, and the appointment has been most satisfactory.

During the year the question of forming a Joint Hospital Board for the south-western part of Northamptonshire was open before your Council, several conferences of the Local Authorities involved were held in Daventry, and it was finally decided to ask the Minister of Health to confirm an Order for the formation of a Joint Hospital Board to include the areas of the Boroughs of Brackley and Daventry, and the Rural Districts of Brackley, Daventry, Northampton and Towcester, and to be known as the Western Northamptonshire Joint Hospital Board, this Order the Minister of Health has been confirmed, and after March 31st, 1938, the Isolation Hospital at Staverton passed out of your Council's hands.

Bacteriological Examinations are carried out whenever necessary by the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 91, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, and also by the Pathologist, General Hospital, Northampton, and these arrangements have proved quite satisfactory.

For non-infectious Sickness the District is within easy distance of the General Hospital, Northampton, or the Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby, and for Tuberculosis cases there is a Sanatorium at Rushden, under the Northamptonshire County Council. There is an Ambulance for the removal of non-infectious illness or accidents in the Borough of Northampton.

### **Vaccination.**

There is little Vaccination or re-Vaccination done in the District and none was performed under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulation of 1917.

### **Industry.**

The Daventry Rural District is almost entirely given up to Agriculture ; there are a few Boot Manufactories ; the London and North-Eastern Railway Works at Woodford-cum-Membris ; and there are some other small works scattered about in different parishes ; there are also the Barracks at Weedon, which find a certain amount of work for civilians living in the neighbourhood.

### **Water Supply.**

The Water Supply of the District has greatly improved of late ; although for some years nine Parishes have had public supplies, most of the villages had to depend on springs and wells of rather a doubtful source, this is all changing, and the first big water scheme for the District was opened during the year.

The Northern Regional Scheme which supplies water to the villages of Barby, Crick, Kilsby, Lilbourne, West Haddon, Winwick, and Yelvertoft, with a population of 3,078 was completed during the year, and was opened by Mr. Thornton, Chairman of

the Council, at the West Haddon Pumping Station on October 8th, and with the exception of a few minor difficulties during the first week or two, there has been a plentiful supply of good soft water ever since for all the seven parishes in the scheme.

The Southern Regional Scheme for providing Water Supply for the villages of Braunston, Watford, and Welton, and augmenting the present supply for the parish of Long Buckby has proceeded somewhat slowly during the year. Great difficulties have been met with in making the final arrangements with the Owners of the land required for carrying out the scheme, however, these are being pushed forward as fast as possible.

The Weedon and Flore Scheme has proceeded satisfactorily, by the end of the year contracts were let and the work well in hand, there is little doubt that this supply of water will be available before the end of 1938.

The Byfield and Charwelton Water Supply was nearing completion at the end of the year, and the supply will be in use early in 1938.

Consideration of a supply for the Parish of Staverton was again before your Council, and the possibility of obtaining water from Daventry Borough was receiving attention at the end of the year.

## **Sewerage and Drainage.**

During the year there has been a distinct advancement in the Sewerage Scheme for some of the Parishes in the District. Nine parishes have for some years had Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Works, and during the past year the following schemes were placed before the Minister of Health.

On June 30th an Inquiry was held for permission to borrow the sum of £3,772 for Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the village of Welton, at the end of the year a few details had still to be arranged.

At the same Inquiry permission was asked for in order to borrow the sum of £535 for Sewerage Disposal Works at Byfield, this work was well advanced by the end of the year.

On October 7th, the Minister of Health held an Inquiry for permission to borrow the sum of £18,500 for Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the Parish of Long Buckby, this scheme was generally approved, but some details have still to be settled, and the final arrangements over the land purchase completed.

On November 25th, another Inquiry was held for permission to borrow the sum of £5,718 for similar works for the Parish of Kilsby, this scheme has generally been approved; the site of the Sewerage Disposal works can also be made suitable to include the Parish of Barby when required.



In many of the Parishes pail closets or privies have to be used, but with the increase of water supplies throughout the District these I hope will gradually disappear and give place to properly flushed water closets.

## Houses.

The following are the general details regarding the Housing question for the year 1937, as asked for by the Ministry of Health :

### 1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—*

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under (Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	338
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	1,363
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	204
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	762
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	189
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the precedingsub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	15

### 2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	24
--	----

### 3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

A— Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	8
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices .—	
	(a) By Owners ... ..	8
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil

B— Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	61
-----	---	----



(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By Owners ... ..	61
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil
C—	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	182
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	39
D—	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, tenements or room having been rendered fit ... ..	Nil

#### Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV.)—Overcrowding.

A	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	31
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein ...	32
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein ...	226
B		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year... ..	Nil
C	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year... ..	24
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases...	141
D		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	Nil
E		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. ... ..	Nil

Originally there were 131 cases of Overcrowding in the District and by the end of October, 1936 this number was reduced to 55, now by the end of December, 1937, the number has been further reduced by the exchange of houses and certain families leaving the District. The number at December, 1937, was 31.

The following are the particulars in relation to the Houses in the District during the past year.

Houses built by Private Enterprise :

Byfield	...	...	3
Long Buckby	...	...	2
Newnham	...	...	2
Woodford-cum-Membris	...	...	9
Flore	...	...	2
Crick	...	...	1
Everdon	...	...	1
Badby	...	...	2
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	22

The following Houses referred to in my last Annual Report in connection with the 1935 Slum Clearance programme have been completed :

Dodford	...	...	3
Helidon	...	...	2
Newnham	...	...	8
Watford	...	...	2
Welton	...	...	25
West Haddon	...	...	8
Woodford-cum-Membris	...	...	12
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	60

## Slum Clearance.

The Fourth Inquiry in the Five Years' Slum Clearance Programme of the Council was held on July 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th by an Inspector from the Ministry of Health, when confirmation was asked for to deal with 184 Houses by Demolition in the following villages.

Braunston	16 Areas	79 Houses
Long Buckby	19 Areas	105 Houses

Later on in the year your Council was informed that the Clearance Orders regarding 182 of these houses were confirmed with certain modifications, and that in the case of two houses at Long Buckby, Clearance Orders were not confirmed.

In addition to the above, the following Individual Houses were inspected under Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

Braunston	3 Houses
Crick	5 Houses
Lilbourne	4 Houses
Long Buckby	2 Houses

The following are the number of Houses already ordered for Demolition :

First Year's Plan ... ..	70
Dealt with under Section 19	22
Second Year's Plan ... ..	58
Dealt with under Section 19	9
Third Year's Plan ... ..	12
Dealt with under Section 19	6
Fourth Year's Plan ... ..	182
Dealt with under Section 19	

but action not yet completed in respect of 14 Houses

### **Overcrowding.**

As a result of the inspection of the District to ascertain the the extent of Overcrowding, it was found that originally there were 131 Dwelling Houses in an overcrowded state and by the end of October, 1936, this number had been reduced to 55. During the year 1937, by means of persuading tenants to exchange houses, by allocating surplus Council houses to overcrowded families and by reason of families leaving the District, the number of overcrowded dwellings at the end of the year was further reduced to 31 and it is hoped that by the same means the number will be still further reduced during the present year.

Before leaving the details regarding Slums and Overcrowding, I may mention that no case of Bug Infected Houses came to the knowledge of the Sanitary Inspector nor myself, so that no steps were necessary for their eradication.

### **Scavenging.**

This is dealt with in some of the villages by Public Scavenging Schemes, the refuse being collected on fixed days and removed to the Parish Tip ; towards the latter end of the year the parish of Welton adopted this plan for the disposal of their refuse. I would sirongly urge that it be extended to other villages in the District as it tends to the more healthy conditions of the parishes ; where no such arrangements have been made, the tenants themselves must dispose of their refuse as best they can, on their own gardens or land.

### **Slaughter Houses.**

The Slaughter Houses in the District were continually inspected during the year and were usually found to be in a satisfactory condition. I believe the Butchers are using every endeavour to carry out all the regulations connected with their business.

### **Milk Supply.**

Inspections of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops were frequently made throughout the year and much attention has been paid to the cleanliness of sheds and dairies. Improvements in structural details continue to be made, generally with the acquiescence of the owners ; the majority of the cowsheds and buildings may be considered of high standard ; the Milk Supply of the District is good and there is no shortage. The Registers are correct and are kept up to-date.

## Food.

No complaint regarding Food was made to me during the year. I look upon the Food Supply of the District as good in every way, the premises where it is stored or exposed for sale are quite satisfactory and no case of food poisoning came under notice during the twelve months. In cases where a Butcher had any doubt about the carcase of a beast he called in the Sanitary Inspector, and when the latter decided that the meat was unfit for food it was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed. In this way 789½lbs. were dealt with during the year, so that no meat had to be seized and condemned as unfit for human consumption, these figures show a marked decrease on former years and points to the great care taken by the Butchers in the selection of animals bought for slaughtering.

The Ministry of Health has asked for the following table to be filled up; certain of the information has not been kept during the year, but the Sanitary Inspector has given me this statement which is as much as he can furnish for the year 1937.

### CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)	Exact	Numbers not known			
Number Inspected	Exact	Numbers not known			
All Diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	One
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Seven Livers	Nil	Nil	Nil	One
Percentage of the Number Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	Cannot	be	worked out		
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Four	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Cannot	be	worked out		



## Factory and Workshop Act.

Frequent visits were paid during the year to the Factories, Workshops and Workplaces throughout the District under the Factory and Workshop Act of 1901, and a close watch has been kept on the outworkers, but these are not numerous in a Rural District like ours, which is chiefly given up to agriculture. The number on the register is 95, a decrease on the former year; on our visits they were found to be in a fair condition; attention was also paid to the Shops in the District and those that are employed therein. Some cases of want of cleanliness were noticed, chiefly the need of whitewashing, and other small nuisances were observed but after attention was called to these matters they were rectified; on the whole I think every endeavour is made to carry out all the various sections of the Act. There are no Underground Bakehouses in the District, and care was taken to see that all the Bakers kept their Bakehouses in a properly clean state. The register is attended to and kept up-to-date.

## Staff.

The Public Health Officers of the Council at the end of the past year were :

GERALD B. SAINT, *Clerk to the Council.*

ALFRED R. DARLEY, *Medical Officer of Health.*

WILFRED C. CHILDS, *Public Health Surveyor.*

HERBERT KIRTON, *Sanitary Inspector.*

BARRY C. LINES, *Sanitary Inspector's Assistant.*

All these are full-time officers except myself.

I append the Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector in accordance with Article XX. (16) of the Local Government Board's General Order of 13th December, 1910.

I beg to remain, Ladies and Gentleman,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED R. DARLEY, M.D.,

*Medical Officer of Health, Rural District of Daventry.*



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DAVENTRY.  
 SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

A. R. DARLFY, ESQ., M.D.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report, shewing work carried out in the Daventry Rural District during the year 1937.

### General.

Number of Inspections and Visits	...	7,469
Number of Re-Inspections	...	3,260
Number of Notices Served	...	507
Number of Nuisances Abated	...	960

### Water Supply.

With the public opening of the North Regional Scheme on the 8th October, 1937, seven parishes were supplied with water, making a total of sixteen parishes in the District which now have Public Water Supplies.

Satisfactory progress was made by the Council in connection with the Public Supplies for Byfield and Charwelton, also Weedon Bec and Flore.

Although the Council had the Southern Regional Scheme continually under consideration during the year, little progress was made owing to the many difficulties met with.

Inquiries as to Conditions of Supplies	...	2,548
New Pumps Provided	...	16
Pumps Repaired	...	32
Wells Cleansed or Improved	...	7
Water Samples Analysed	...	8
Water Certificates Granted	...	24

### Drainage.

As a whole the House Drainage of the District may be considered fair, and continued improvements have been maintained throughout the year with the provision of new drains, etc.

Number of New Drains Provided	...	33
Drains Re-Constructed or Improved	...	65
Number of Cleansing and Minor Repairs	...	28
Number of Ventilating Shafts Provided	...	31
Number of Septic Tanks Provided	...	8
Number of Cesspools Abolished	...	2
Number of Yards Paved	...	22

## Closet Accommodation.

Only nine parishes of the District at present have proper Sewers and Sewage Disposal Systems, and Water Closets are in general use in these parishes.

In the remaining parishes of the District, Privies and Pail Closets form the chief accommodation.

Public Inquiries were held during the year by Inspectors from the Ministry of Health for the provision of Sewage Systems in the parishes of Long Buckby, Kilsby and Welton.

Two lengths of New Sewer were provided in the parish of Byfield and further improvements are under consideration. At Charwelton a length of Sewer and a Sewage Disposal System have been completed.

The Council had under consideration the provision of a length of New Sewer in the parish of Flore and the Sewer will be laid early in the coming year.

Number of Water Closets provided	...	...	25
Number of New Lavatory Basins provided	...	...	26
Number of Privies converted to Water Closets			16
Number of Pail Closets provided	...	...	2
Number of New Pails to Closets provided	...	...	6
Number of Notices to Cleanse Privies...	...	...	61

## Schools.

There are twenty-nine Schools in use in the District and in some instances the sanitation is not so good as it should be, but it was observed from frequent visits that a good standard of cleanliness was maintained.

## Bakehouses.

There are twenty-two Bakehouses in the District, which were inspected and found to be clean and regularly limewashed.

## Factories and Workshops.

During the year the Factories and Workshops Register was completely revised as, on inspection, it was found that a number had closed down. There are now 95 premises in the Register and these are chiefly Workshops, the conditions of the same were found to be fair, although in a number of cases a want of cleanliness was observed and the same were satisfactorily dealt with.

Three Lists of Outworkers were received, one in January containing two outworkers, two lists received in July containing three outworkers; the Lists were checked and the conditions found to be satisfactory.

Two notices were received from His Majesty's Inspector of Factories, in both cases dealing with Lavatory Accommodation, and the conditions complained of were remedied.

One certificate as to adequate means of escape in case of fire was granted.

## Scavenging.

The Council carry out Public Refuse Collections by Annual Contracts in eighteen parishes. In two parishes Refuse Tips are provided where householders deposit their household refuse, this method is not satisfactory. In three parishes Tips are provided and the refuse collected and removed by the owner of the village.

Public Refuse Collection was commenced by the Council during the year in the parish of Welton. The work of collecting and carting away the accumulations of Refuse in the parish proved to be the most expensive of any parish in which the Council has undertaken a Public Refuse Collection.

The figures below show the Council's expenditure during the financial year for Refuse Collection.

<i>Parish</i>	£	s.	d.
Badby ... ..	15	2	0
Barby ... ..	20	11	2
Braunston ... ..	43	10	11
Byfield ... ..	43	0	0
Charwelton, maintenance of Tip only		5	0
Crick ... ..	52	3	4
Everdon ... ..	17	10	6
Flore ... ..	40	7	11
Hellidon ... ..	13	10	0
Kilsby ... ..	22	15	0
Lilbourne, maintenance of Tip only	2	19	5
Long Buckby ... ..	113	5	3
Newnham ... ..	19	14	8
Staverton ... ..	22	14	3
Watford ... ..	14	18	0
Weedon Bec, including preparing Tip	92	11	4
Welton, including provision of Tip and Fencing and Collection of accumulated Refuse ... ..	84	15	4
West Haddon ... ..	44	11	0
Winwick, rent of Tip only ... ..	1	12	0
Woodford-cum-Membris ... ..	83	5	4
Yelvertoft ... ..	16	5	0
Preston Capes, erection of Notice Board	1	0	0
Total	£766	7	5

The cost per house scavenged is approximately 3s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per year. This cost includes extra expenditure this year for Collecting of Accumulated Refuse at Welton, the erection of New Tip Fencing at Welton and the preparation of a Tip at Weedon Bec

## Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924.

There are thirty-one Butchers' Shops in the District ; regular inspections have been made at these premises and also the Slaughter Houses. The regulations are suitably complied with by the Butchers.

No unsound meat was found exposed for sale during the year, but upon inspection, at the request of owners the following meat was found to be unfit for food and was surrendered and destroyed.

Beef	...	...	512½lbs.
Seven Livers	...	...	111 lbs.
Pork	...	...	166 lbs.

---

789½lbs.

Number of Licensed Slaughter Houses	...	1
Number of Registered Slaughter Houses	...	24
Number of Knackers' Yards	... ..	1

## Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Section 1 of this Act is in force in the District. All animals being mechanically stunned before slaughtering.

Number of Slaughterman's Licences Granted	50
Number of New Licences Granted	... .. 2

## Game Act.

One Licence under this Act was granted.

## Milk and Dairies Acts and Order, 1915 to 1936.

There are 269 entries on the registers, and all of these have been visited at least twice during the year. The general conditions of the premises concerned may be considered fair, improvements in the structures continues to be maintained.

One Supplementary Licence for the sale of Pasteurised Milk in the District was renewed.

There are 23 producers who have been licenced by the Northamptonshire County Council under the Accredited Scheme, several additions were made to the scheme during the year and enquiries from other farmers in the District, regarding the scheme, still continue to be made.

At the commencement of the year there was two Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk Producers in the District ; later on in the year one ceased.

At the request of the County Medical Officer of Health, 1 took six samples of Bottled Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk and forwarded to the Medical Officer for analysis. Four samples satisfied the Methylene Blue Test and Coliform Test, and two satisfied the Methylene Blue Test : in these instances the Coliform test was not used.



## Registered as—

Cowkeepers and Wholesale Traders	...	162
Cowkeepers, Wholesale Traders, Retail		
Purveyors and Dairymen	...	7
Cowkeepers, Wholesale Traders and Retail		
Purveyors	...	26
Cowkeepers and Dairyman	...	15
Cowkeepers, Retail Purveyors and Dairymen		17
Cowkeepers and Retail Purveyors	...	36
Retail Purveyors only	...	6
		<hr/> 269

Number of Certificates of Registration Granted	...	14
Number of Certificates of Registration Cancelled	...	26
Number of New Sheds Built	...	4
Number of New Cooling Houses Provided	...	5
Number of Impervious Floors and Channels		
Provided	...	7
Number of Sheds Provided with Light and		
Ventilation	...	6
Number of Yards and Approaches Concreted	...	2
Number of Drains Provided	...	5
Number of Cleansing Notices Served (Line		
Washing)	...	109
Number of Notices Served for Removal of Manure		44
Number of Notices Served for Cleansing of Floors		
of Sheds, etc.	...	59

**Petroleum (Regulations) Acts 1928 and 1936.**

Petroleum Spirit Licences Granted	...	45
Carbide of Calcium Licences Granted	...	5
Petroleum Spirit Licences Transferred	...	2

**Canal Boats Acts and Regulations.**

Eight visits were made to the Canal Wharf at Braunston for the purpose of examining Boats requiring to be registered.

New Canal Boats Registered	...	2
Canal Boats Re-registered	...	3
Registration Certificates Cancelled		3

**Housing Act, 1925 to 1936.**

Details of the Housing Work carried out in the District have been supplied to the Medical Officer of Health and are embodied in his report.



### **Housing Act, 1925 to 1936 (Overcrowding)**

Details of the work under this Act have been supplied to the Medical Officer of Health and are embodied in his Report.

### **National Rat Week, 1937.**

As in former years, special efforts were made to arouse general interest by the public to destroy Rats and Mice.

A full report of the action taken was forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. KIRTON, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

*Sanitary Inspector.*

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1938, FOR THE  
RURAL DISTRICT OF DAVENTRY.**

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with  
**FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

**1—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
<b>Factories</b> ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	8	0	0
<b>Workshops</b> ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	87	4	0
<b>Workplaces</b> ... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises)	0	0	0
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>95</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>

**2—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.**

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prose- cutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness .. ..	45	45	0	0
Want of ventilation .. ..				
Overcrowding .. ..				
Want of Drainage of floors ..				
Other nuisances .. ..				
Sanitary } insufficient .. ..	1	1	0	0
accom- } unsuitable or defective				
modation } not separate for sexes	1	1	0	0
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse (s 101) ..				
Other offences .. ..				
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order 1921).				
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108 .. Nil

11th May, 1938.

ALFRED R. DARLEY, *Medical Officer of Health.*





